

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the application. No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this Amendment.

Statement Of Substance Of Interview

The Examiner is thanked for graciously conducting an Interview with the applicants' representative on December 13, 2005. During the Interview, the meaning of the claims were discussed. Proposed amendments to clarify the claims were also discussed. At the end of the Interview, the Examiner prepared an Interview Summary. The Interview Summary has been reviewed and it appears to accurately describe the substance of the Interview.

Status Of The Claims

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. The claims have been amended to clarify their language.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicants traverse.

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the claims are generally narrative and not conforming to U.S. practice. However, the claims have been amended to be clear, definite and

have full antecedent basis. Also, the claim amendments reflect the discussion with the Examiner during the Interview of December 13, 2005.

This rejection is overcome and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Foreign Priority

The Examiner has acknowledged foreign priority in the Office Action mailed September 9, 2005.

The Drawings

The Examiner is respectfully requested to indicate whether the drawing figures are acceptable in the next official action.

Conclusion

The Examiner's rejections has been overcome, obviated or rendered moot. No issues remain. The Examiner is accordingly respectfully requested to place the application in condition for allowance and to issue a Notice of Allowability.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant(s) respectfully petition(s) for a two (2) month extension of time for filing a reply in connection with the present application, and the required fee of \$450.00 is attached hereto.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert E. Goozner, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 42,593) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Application No. 10/720,281
Amendment dated February 9, 2006
Reply to Office Action of September 9, 2005

Docket No.: 2927-0163P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 9, 2006



Respectfully submitted,

By


Andrew D. Meikle

Registration No.: 32,868

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant